

February 3, 1984

LB 703
LR 255

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, this is a bill that I introduced at the request of the judges of the Municipal Court in Omaha. It involves a situation where security guards who work for the larger stores come in to testify on shoplifting cases. They are called in by their employer. They are on the clock. They are paid by the employer while they are there. In addition to that they wanted to collect a witness fee which the judges feel sometimes not only taints their testimony but encourages them to make arrests of people because whether they are convicted or not the security guard's income is supplemented by the \$20. But to draw a tighter parallel, it is similar to a police officer or certain state employees who testify about things that happen during the course of and in connection with their employment, and when they testify they are paid by...if they work for the state, the state, if they work for the Police Department, by the Department. So the security guards since they are testifying in the same capacity as paid witnesses by their employer, they should not collect an additional witness fee. Judge...one of the judges was down there to testify on the bill and there is no opposition so I am asking that you advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on LB 703? The motion is to advance. If not, all those in favor of advancing LB 703 from General File to Enrollment and Review for review vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the advancement of LB 703 from General File. Please record your vote. May we have your cooperation on recording your vote on the advancement of LB 703. The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance LB 703.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. The time for consideration of bills on consent calendar has expired. Do you have any matters to read into the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, I have an announcement from the Appropriations Committee offered by Senator Warner as Chair.

Mr. President, a new resolution, LB 255 offered by the